United Nations CEDAW/C/2004/I/1

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Thirtieth session
12-30 January 2004

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session.
2. Solemn declaration by a new member of the Committee.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-ninth and the thirtieth sessions of the Committee.
5. Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
6. Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
7. Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee.
8. Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
9. Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session.
10. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session.

Annotations

Item 1
Opening of the session

The thirtieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women will be opened by the Chairperson of the Committee.

03-60301 (E) 241103

Item 2
Solemn declaration by a new member of the Committee

According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, new members of the Committee shall make the solemn declaration contained in that rule.

Item 3
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Rule 9 of the rules of procedure provides that the first substantive item on the provisional agenda for any session shall be the adoption of the agenda. Rule 7 provides that the provisional agenda for each session shall be prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chairperson, in conformity with the relevant provisions of articles 17 to 22 of the Convention.

At its twenty-ninth session the Committee approved the provisional agenda for its thirtieth session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (CEDAW/C/2004/I/1)

Item 4
Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Committee

Under this item, the Chairperson will brief the Committee on activities and events occurring since the previous session that had a bearing on the Committee's work.

Item 5
Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 18 of the Convention provides that States parties to the Convention shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and other progress made in this respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years and further whenever the Committee requests.

At its twenty-ninth session, the Committee, taking into account the criteria of preference to be given to those States parties whose reports had been pending for the longest time, the need to give priority to initial reports and the desirability of balance of reports in terms of geographic and other factors, decided to invite eight States parties to present their reports. Eight States parties agreed to that request.

At its thirtieth session, the Committee will have before it the following reports: the combined initial, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of Bhutan (CEDAW/C/BTN/1-3 and CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6/Corr.1), the combined initial and second periodic report of Kuwait (CEDAW/C/KWT/1-2), the combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of Belarus (CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6), the combined fourth and fifth periodic report of Ethiopia (CEDAW/C/ETH/4-5), the fifth periodic report of Germany (CEDAW/C/DEU/5), the second periodic report of Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/2 and Add.1), the combined fourth and fifth periodic report of

Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/4-5) and the combined second and third periodic report of Nepal (CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3).

Rule 51 of the rules of procedure provides that representatives of a State party shall be present at meetings of the Committee when the report of the State is being examined and shall participate in discussions and answer questions concerning the reports. The Secretary-General has informed the States parties concerned of the tentative dates on which their reports are scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its thirtieth session.

Rule 49 of the rules of procedure provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention. The Secretary-General also provides the Committee with a list of reports submitted by States parties to the Convention that have not yet been considered by the Committee. At its thirtieth session, the Committee will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention (CEDAW/C/2004/I/2).

A pre-session working group of the Committee is convened before each session to prepare a list of issues and questions relating to periodic reports for transmission to the representatives of States parties before the meetings at which their reports are to be considered. The pre-session working group for the thirtieth session met in New York from 21 to 25 July 2003. The report of the pre-session working group and the responses of States parties to the lists of issues and questions drawn up by the pre-session working group will be before the Committee (CEDAW/PSWG/2004/I/CRP.1 and 2 and addenda).

Documentation

Combined initial, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of Bhutan (CEDAW/C/BTN/1-3 and CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6/Corr.1)

Combined initial and second periodic report of Kuwait (CEDAW/C/KWT/1-2)

Combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report of Belarus (CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6)

Combined fourth and fifth periodic report of Ethiopia (CEDAW/C/ETH/4-5)

Fifth periodic report of Germany (CEDAW/C/DEU/5)

Second periodic report of Kyrgyzstan (CEDAW/C/KGZ/2 and Add.1)

Combined second and third periodic report of Nepal (CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3)

Combined fourth and fifth periodic report of Nigeria (CEDAW/C/NGA/4-5)

Report of the pre-session working group (CEDAW/PSWG/2004/I/CRP.1 and Add.1 (Belarus), Add.2 (Ethiopia), Add.3 (Germany), Add.4 (Kyrgyzstan), Add.5 (Nepal) and Add.6 (Nigeria))

Responses to list of issues (CEDAW/PSWG/2004/I/CRP.2 (Nepal) and Add.1 (Belarus), Add.2 (Ethiopia), Add.3 (Kyrgyzstan), Add.4 (Nigeria) and Add.5 (Germany))

Item 6
Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Article 21 of the Convention provides that the Committee may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from States parties. It also provides that such suggestions and general recommendations shall be included in the report of the Committee together with comments, if any, from States parties.

At its thirtieth session, the Committee will have before it the text of a revised draft general recommendation on article 4.1 of the Convention on temporary special measures prepared by a drafting group of the Committee.

Under this agenda item, the Committee provides opportunities for specialists from the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies to present to the Committee, in plenary, information related to specific articles of the Convention or to issues being considered for general recommendations and suggestions.

Article 22 of the Convention provides that the specialized agencies shall be entitled to be represented during the consideration of the implementation of such provisions of the Convention as fall within the scope of their activities and that the Committee may invite the specialized agencies to submit reports on the implementation of the Convention in those areas. At its thirtieth session, the Committee will have before it a note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on that subject (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3 and addenda).

Documentation

Text of a revised draft general recommendation on article 4.1 of the Convention on temporary measures (CEDAW/C/2004/I/WP.1)

Note by the Secretary-General on reports of specialized agencies on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3)

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.1)

Report of the World Health Organization (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.2)

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.3)

Report of the International Labour Organization (CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.4)

Item 7
Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee

Before each session, the Secretariat prepares a pre-session report on ways and means of improving the work of the Committee, containing information provided by the Secretariat, comments made by members of the Committee or information on developments elsewhere in the human rights regime (CEDAW/C/2004/I/4).

Documentation

Report of the Secretariat on ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee (CEDAW/C/2004/I/4 and Add.1 and 2)

Item 8
Activities of the Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Following the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention in December 2000, the Committee established the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol. The Working Group will hold its third session from 7 to 9 January 2004, and the Committee will consider the report of the Working Group on its third session.

At its twenty-eighth session, the Committee also commenced work under article 8 of the Optional Protocol and will continue that work at its thirtieth session.

Documentation

Report of the Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol (CEDAW/C/2004/I/WGCOP/L.1)

Item 9
Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session

At its tenth session, the Committee decided that the draft provisional agenda for the following session of the Committee would be approved at the end of each session.

Documentation

Draft provisional agenda for the thirty-first session of the Committee

Item 10
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session

Annex

Proposed organization of work

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Monday, 12 January 2004 **629th meeting**		
10 a.m.	**Item 1**	**Opening of the session**
	Item 2	**Solemn declaration by a new member of the Committee**
	Item 3	**Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**
	Item 4	**Report of the Chairperson on activities undertaken between the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions of the Committee**
	Item 5	**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**: report of the pre-session working group
	Item 6	**Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**: introductory statement
	Item 7	**Ways and means of expediting the work of the Committee**: introductory statement
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)		Informal meeting with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies
3-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 13 January 2004 **630th meeting**		
10-10.30 a.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Nepal, combined second and third periodic report (CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
631st meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Nepal (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Wednesday, 14 January 2004		
632nd meeting		
	Item 5 (continued)	**Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention**
10-10.30 a.m.		Kyrgyzstan, second periodic report (CEDAW/C/KGZ/2 and Add.1)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
633rd meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Kyrgyzstan (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 15 January 2004		
634th meeting		
10-10.30 a.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Kuwait, combined initial and second periodic report (CEDAW/C/KWT/1-2)
10.30-11.15 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
11.15 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
635th meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Kuwait (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Friday, 16 January 2004		
636th meeting		
10 a.m.-10.30 (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Bhutan, combined initial, second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/BTN/1-3 and CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6/Corr.1)
10.30-11.15 a.m.		Introduction by the representative of the State party
11.15 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
637th meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Bhutan (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Monday, 19 January 2004		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	**Item 8**	Activities of Committee under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
3-4.30 p.m.		Informal meeting with non-governmental organizations
4.30-6 p.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 20 January 2004		
638th meeting		
10-10.30 a.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Nigeria, combined fourth and fifth periodic report (CEDAW/C/NGA/4-5)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
639th meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Nigeria (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 21 January 2004		
640th meeting		
10-10.30 a.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Germany, fifth periodic report (CEDAW/C/DEU/5)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
641st meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Germany (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 22 January 2004		
642nd meeting		
10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Replies (Bhutan)
12.30-1 p.m. (closed)		Working Group of the Whole
643rd meeting		
3-5.30 p.m.		Replies (Kuwait)
5.30-6 p.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Friday, 23 January 2004		
644th meeting		
10-10.30 a.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Belarus, combined fourth, fifth and sixth periodic report (CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by experts and dialogue with the Committee
645th meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Belarus (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Monday, 26 January 2004		
646th meeting		
10-10.30 a.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Ethiopia, combined fourth and fifth periodic report (CEDAW/C/ETH/4-5)
		Introduction by the representative of the State party
10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.		Questions by the experts and dialogue with the Committee
647th meeting		
3-5 p.m.	**Item 5** (continued)	Ethiopia (continued)
5-6 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6 and 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Tuesday, 27 January 2004		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3-6 p.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
Wednesday, 28 January 2004		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	**Item 6** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3-6 p.m. (closed)	**Item 8**	Working Group of the Whole
Thursday, 29 January 2004		
10 a.m.-1 p.m. (closed)	**Item 7** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
3-6 p.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole

Date/time	*Agenda item*	*Documentation/programme*
Friday, 30 January 2004		
10 a.m. (closed)	**Item 5** (continued)	Working Group of the Whole
648th meeting		
3-4 p.m. (closed)	**Items 6, 7 and 8** (continued)	Adoption of the report of the Working Group of the Whole
4-6 p.m.	**Item 9**	**Provisional agenda for the thirty-first session**
	Item 10	**Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirtieth session**

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Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Thirtieth session
12-30 January 2004
Item 5 of the provisional agenda*
Consideration of reports submitted by States parties under article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Status of submission of reports by States parties under article 18 of the Convention

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Article 18 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women provides that States parties shall undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures that they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the Convention and on the progress made in that respect. Reports are to be submitted within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned and thereafter at least every four years, and further whenever the Committee so requests.

2. Rule 49 of the rules of procedure of the Committee provides that, at each session, the Secretary-General shall notify the Committee of the non-receipt of any report required from a State party under article 18 of the Convention.

3. Annex I to the present report lists the States parties whose reports were overdue as at 1 November 2003. Annex II lists States parties whose reports are five years or more overdue as at 1 November 2003. Annex III lists the reports, by State party, that have been submitted as at 1 November 2003 but have not yet been considered by the Committee.

* CEDAW/C/2004/I/1.

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Annex I

States parties whose reports are due and have not yet been submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as at 1 November 2003

State party	*Date due*
Albania	
Third periodic report	10 June 2003
Andorra	
Second periodic report	14 February 2002
Angola	
Fourth periodic report	17 October 1999
Fifth periodic report	17 October 2003
Antigua and Barbuda	
Fourth periodic report	31 August 2002
Armenia	
Third periodic report	13 October 2002
Australia	
Fourth periodic report	27 August 1996
Fifth periodic report	27 August 2000
Austria	
Sixth periodic report	30 April 2003
Azerbaijan	
Second periodic report	9 August 2000
Bahamas	
Initial report	5 November 1994
Second periodic report	5 November 1998
Third periodic report	5 November 2002
Bahrain	
Initial report	18 July 2003

State party	*Date due*
Barbados	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1999
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2003
Belgium	
Fifth periodic report	9 August 2002
Belize	
Third periodic report	15 June 1999
Fourth periodic report	15 June 2003
Bolivia	
Second periodic report	8 July 1995
Third periodic report	8 July 1999
Fourth periodic report	8 July 2003
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Initial report	1 October 1994
Second periodic report	1 October 1998
Third periodic report	1 October 2002
Botswana	
Initial report	12 September 1997
Second periodic report	12 September 2001
Bulgaria	
Fourth periodic report	10 March 1995
Fifth periodic report	10 March 1999
Sixth periodic report	10 March 2003
Burundi	
Second periodic report	7 February 1997
Third periodic report	7 February 2001
Cambodia	
Initial report	14 November 1993
Second periodic report	14 November 1997
Third periodic report	14 November 2001
Cameroon	
Second periodic report	22 September 1999
Third periodic report	22 September 2003

State party	*Date due*
Canada	
Sixth periodic report	9 January 2003
Cape Verde	
Initial report	3 January 1981
Second periodic report	3 January 1985
Third periodic report	3 January 1989
Fourth periodic report	3 January 1993
Fifth periodic report	3 January 1997
Sixth periodic report	3 January 2001
Central African Republic	
Initial report	21 July 1992
Second periodic report	21 July 1996
Third periodic report	21 July 2000
Chad	
Initial report	9 July 1996
Second periodic report	9 July 2000
Chile	
Fourth periodic report	6 January 2003
China	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Colombia	
Fifth periodic report	18 February 1999
Sixth periodic report	18 February 2003
Comoros	
Initial report	30 November 1995
Second periodic report	30 November 1999
Congo	
Sixth periodic report	25 August 2003
Costa Rica	
Fifth periodic report	4 May 2003

State party	*Date due*
Côte d'Ivoire	
Initial report	17 January 1997
Second periodic report	17 January 2001
Cuba	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Cyprus	
Third periodic report	22 August 1994
Fourth periodic report	22 August 1998
Fifth periodic report	22 August 2002
Czech Republic	
Third periodic report	24 March 2001
Democratic Republic of the Congo	
Fourth periodic report	16 November 1999
Djibouti	
Initial report	2 January 2000
Dominica	
Initial report	15 October 1981
Second periodic report	15 October 1985
Third periodic report	15 October 1989
Fourth periodic report	15 October 1993
Fifth periodic report	15 October 1997
Sixth periodic report	15 October 2001
Dominican Republic	
Sixth periodic report	2 September 2003
Ecuador	
Sixth periodic report	9 December 2002
Egypt	
Sixth periodic report	18 October 2002

State party	*Date due*
Equatorial Guinea	
Fourth periodic report	22 November 1997
Fifth periodic report	22 November 2001
Eritrea	
Initial report	5 October 1996
Second periodic report	5 October 2000
Ethiopia	
Sixth periodic report	5 October 2002
Fiji	
Second periodic report	27 September 2000
Finland	
Fifth periodic report	4 October 2003
Georgia	
Second periodic report	25 November 1999
Third periodic report	25 November 2003
Ghana	
Third periodic report	1 February 1995
Fourth periodic report	1 February 1999
Fifth periodic report	1 February 2003
Grenada	
Initial report	29 September 1991
Second periodic report	29 September 1995
Third periodic report	29 September 1999
Fourth periodic report	29 September 2003
Guatemala	
Sixth periodic report	11 September 2003

State party	*Date due*
Guinea	
Fourth periodic report	8 September 1995
Fifth periodic report	8 September 1999
Sixth periodic report	8 September 2003
Guinea-Bissau	
Initial report	22 September 1986
Second periodic report	22 September 1990
Third periodic report	22 September 1994
Fourth periodic report	22 September 1998
Fifth periodic report	22 September 2002
Haiti	
Initial report	20 August 1982
Second periodic report	20 August 1986
Third periodic report	20 August 1990
Fourth periodic report	20 August 1994
Fifth periodic report	20 August 1998
Sixth periodic report	20 August 2002
Honduras	
Fourth periodic report	2 April 1996
Fifth periodic report	2 April 2000
Hungary	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Iceland	
Fifth periodic report	18 July 2002
India	
Second periodic report	8 August 1998
Third periodic report	8 August 2002
Indonesia	
Fourth periodic report	13 October 1997
Fifth periodic report	13 October 2001
Iraq	
Fourth periodic report	12 September 1999
Fifth periodic report	12 September 2003

State party	*Date due*
Italy	
Fourth periodic report	10 July 1998
Fifth periodic report	10 July 2002
Jamaica	
Fifth periodic report	18 November 2001
Jordan	
Third periodic report	31 July 2001
Kazakhstan	
Second periodic report	25 September 2003
Kenya	
Fifth periodic report	8 April 2001
Kuwait	
Third periodic report	2 October 2003
Lao People's Democratic Republic	
Sixth periodic report	13 September 2002
Lebanon	
Initial report	21 May 1998
Second periodic report	21 May 2002
Lesotho	
Initial report	21 September 1996
Second periodic report	21 September 2000
Liberia	
Initial report	16 August 1985
Second periodic report	16 August 1989
Third periodic report	16 August 1993
Fourth periodic report	16 August 1997
Fifth periodic report	16 August 2001
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	
Third periodic report	15 June 1998
Fourth periodic report	15 June 2002

State party	*Date due*
Lithuania	
Third periodic report	17 February 2003
Madagascar	
Second periodic report	16 April 1994
Third periodic report	16 April 1998
Fourth periodic report	16 April 2002
Malawi	
Second periodic report	11 April 1992
Third periodic report	11 April 1996
Fourth periodic report	11 April 2000
Malaysia	
Initial report	4 August 1996
Second periodic report	4 August 2000
Maldives	
Second periodic report	1 July 1998
Third periodic report	1 July 2002
Mali	
Second periodic report	10 October 1990
Third periodic report	10 October 1994
Fourth periodic report	10 October 1998
Fifth periodic report	10 October 2002
Mauritania	
Initial report	9 June 2002
Mauritius	
Third periodic report	8 August 1993
Fourth periodic report	8 August 1997
Fifth periodic report	8 August 2001
Mexico	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002

State party	*Date due*
Mongolia	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Morocco	
Third periodic report	21 July 2002
Mozambique	
Initial report	16 May 1998
Second periodic report	16 May 2002
Myanmar	
Second periodic report	21 August 2002
Namibia	
Second periodic report	23 December 1997
Third periodic report	23 December 2001
Nicaragua	
Sixth periodic report	26 November 2002
Niger	
Initial report	8 November 2000
Pakistan	
Initial report	11 June 1997
Second periodic report	11 June 2001
Panama	
Fourth periodic report	28 November 1994
Fifth periodic report	28 November 1998
Sixth periodic report	28 November 2002
Papua New Guinea	
Initial report	11 February 1996
Second periodic report	11 February 2000

State party	*Date due*
Philippines	
Fifth periodic report	4 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	4 September 2002
Poland	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Portugal	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Republic of Moldova	
Second periodic report	31 July 1999
Third periodic report	31 July 2003
Romania	
Sixth periodic report	6 February 2003
Russian Federation	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Rwanda	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Fifth periodic report	25 May 2002
Saint Lucia	
Initial report	7 November 1983
Second periodic report	7 November 1987
Third periodic report	7 November 1991
Fourth periodic report	7 November 1995
Fifth periodic report	7 November 1999

State party	*Date due*
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Saudi Arabia	
Initial report	7 October 2001
Senegal	
Third periodic report	7 March 1994
Fourth periodic report	7 March 1998
Fifth periodic report	7 March 2002
Serbia and Montenegro	
Initial report	11 April 2002
Seychelles	
Initial report	4 June 1993
Second periodic report	4 June 1997
Third periodic report	4 June 2001
Sierra Leone	
Initial report	11 December 1989
Second periodic report	11 December 1993
Third periodic report	11 December 1997
Fourth periodic report	11 December 2001
Slovakia	
Second periodic report	27 June 1998
Third periodic report	27 June 2002
Solomon Islands	
Initial report	6 June 2003
South Africa	
Second periodic report	14 January 2001

State party	*Date due*
Sri Lanka	
Fifth periodic report	4 November 1998
Sixth periodic report	4 November 2002
Suriname	
Third periodic report	31 March 2002
Sweden	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
Tajikistan	
Initial report	25 October 1994
Second periodic report	25 October 1998
Third periodic report	25 October 2002
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	
Initial report	17 February 1995
Second periodic report	17 February 1999
Third periodic report	17 February 2003
Togo	
Initial report	26 October 1984
Second periodic report	26 October 1988
Third periodic report	26 October 1992
Fourth periodic report	26 October 1996
Fifth periodic report	26 October 2000
Trinidad and Tobago	
Fourth periodic report	11 February 2003
Tunisia	
Fifth periodic report	20 October 2002
Turkmenistan	
Initial report	31 May 1998
Second periodic report	31 May 2002
Tuvalu	
Initial report	6 November 2000

State party	*Date due*
Uganda	
Fourth periodic report	21 August 1998
Fifth periodic report	21 August 2002
Ukraine	
Sixth periodic report	3 September 2002
United Republic of Tanzania	
Fourth periodic report	19 September 1998
Fifth periodic report	19 September 2002
Uruguay	
Fourth periodic report	8 November 1994
Fifth periodic report	8 November 1998
Sixth periodic report	8 November 2002
Uzbekistan	
Second periodic report	18 August 2000
Vanuatu	
Initial report	8 October 1996
Second periodic report	8 October 2000
Venezuela	
Fourth periodic report	1 June 1996
Fifth periodic report	1 June 2000
Viet Nam	
Fifth periodic report	19 March 1999
Sixth periodic report	19 March 2003
Zambia	
Fifth periodic report	21 July 2002
Zimbabwe	
Second periodic report	12 June 1996
Third periodic report	12 June 2000

Annex II

States parties whose reports are five years or more overdue as at 1 November 2003

State party	*Date due*
Australia	
Fourth periodic report	27 August 1996
Bahamas	
Initial report	5 November 1994
Bolivia	
Second periodic report	8 July 1995
Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Initial report	1 October 1994
Second periodic report	1 October 1998
Botswana	
Initial report	12 September 1997
Bulgaria	
Fourth periodic report	10 March 1995
Burundi	
Second periodic report	7 February 1997
Cambodia	
Initial report	14 November 1993
Second periodic report	14 November 1997
Cape Verde	
Initial report	3 January 1981
Second periodic report	3 January 1985
Third periodic report	3 January 1989
Fourth periodic report	3 January 1993
Fifth periodic report	3 January 1997

State party	*Date due*
Central African Republic	
Initial report	21 July 1992
Second periodic report	21 July 1996
Chad	
Initial report	9 July 1996
China	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Côte d'Ivoire	
Initial report	17 January 1997
Comoros	
Initial report	30 November 1995
Cuba	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Cyprus	
Third periodic report	22 August 1994
Fourth periodic report	22 August 1998
Dominica	
Initial report	15 October 1981
Second periodic report	15 October 1985
Third periodic report	15 October 1989
Fourth periodic report	15 October 1993
Fifth periodic report	15 October 1997
Equatorial Guinea	
Fourth periodic report	22 November 1997
Eritrea	
Initial report	5 October 1996
Ghana	
Third periodic report	1 February 1995

State party	*Date due*
Grenada	
Initial report	29 September 1991
Second periodic report	29 September 1995
Guinea	
Fourth periodic report	8 September 1995
Guinea-Bissau	
Initial report	22 September 1986
Second periodic report	22 September 1990
Third periodic report	22 September 1994
Fourth periodic report	22 September 1998
Haiti	
Initial report	20 August 1982
Second periodic report	20 August 1986
Third periodic report	20 August 1990
Fourth periodic report	20 August 1994
Fifth periodic report	20 August 1998
Honduras	
Fourth periodic report	2 April 1996
India	
Second periodic report	8 August 1998
Indonesia	
Fourth periodic report	13 October 1997
Italy	
Fourth periodic report	10 July 1998
Lebanon	
Initial report	21 May 1998
Lesotho	
Initial report	21 September 1996

State party	*Date due*
Liberia	
Initial report	16 August 1985
Second periodic report	16 August 1989
Third periodic report	16 August 1993
Fourth periodic report	16 August 1997
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	
Third periodic report	15 June 1998
Madagascar	
Second periodic report	16 April 1994
Third periodic report	16 April 1998
Malawi	
Second periodic report	11 April 1992
Third periodic report	11 April 1996
Malaysia	
Initial report	4 August 1996
Maldives	
Second periodic report	1 July 1998
Mali	
Second periodic report	10 October 1990
Third periodic report	10 October 1994
Fourth periodic report	10 October 1998
Mauritius	
Third periodic report	8 August 1993
Fourth periodic report	8 August 1997
Mongolia	
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Mozambique	
Initial report	16 May 1998
Namibia	
Second periodic report	23 December 1997

State party	*Date due*
Pakistan	
Initial report	11 June 1997
Panama	
Fourth periodic report	28 November 1994
Papua New Guinea	
Initial report	11 February 1996
Philippines	
Fifth periodic report	4 September 1998
Poland	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Rwanda	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Saint Lucia	
Initial report	7 November 1983
Second periodic report	7 November 1987
Third periodic report	7 November 1991
Fourth periodic report	7 November 1995
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Fourth periodic report	3 September 1994
Fifth periodic report	3 September 1998
Senegal	
Third periodic report	7 March 1994
Fourth periodic report	7 March 1998
Seychelles	
Initial report	4 June 1993
Second periodic report	4 June 1997

State party	*Date due*
Sierra Leone	
Initial report	11 December 1989
Second periodic report	11 December 1993
Third periodic report	11 December 1997
Slovakia	
Second periodic report	27 June 1998
Tajikistan	
Initial report	25 October 1994
Second periodic report	25 October 1998
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	
Initial report	17 February 1995
Togo	
Initial report	26 October 1984
Second periodic report	26 October 1988
Third periodic report	26 October 1992
Fourth periodic report	26 October 1996
Turkmenistan	
Initial report	31 May 1998
Uganda	
Fourth periodic report	21 August 1998
United Republic of Tanzania	
Fourth periodic report	19 September 1998
Uruguay	
Fourth periodic report	8 November 1994
Vanuatu	
Initial report	8 October 1996
Venezuela	
Fourth periodic report	1 June 1996
Zimbabwe	
Second periodic report	12 June 1996

Annex III

States parties whose reports have been submitted but not yet considered by the Committee as at 1 November 2003

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
Algeria[c]			
Second periodic report	21 June 2001	29 January 2003	CEDAW/C/DZA/2
Angola[b, c]			
Combined initial	17 October 1987	2 May 2002	CEDAW/C/AGO/1-3
second and	17 October 1991	2 May 2002	CEDAW/C/AGO/1-3
third periodic report	17 October 1995	2 May 2002	CEDAW/C/AGO/1-3
Bangladesh[b, c]			
Fifth periodic report	6 December 2001	27 December 2002	CEDAW/C/BGD/5
Belarus[a, c]			
Combined fourth,	3 September 1994	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6
fifth, and	3 September 1998	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6
sixth periodic report	3 September 2002	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BLR/4-6
Benin			
Combined initial	11 April 1993	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BEN/1-3
second and	11 April 1997	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BEN/1-3
third periodic report	11 April 2001	27 June 2002	CEDAW/C/BEN/1-3
Bhutan[a, c]			
Combined initial	30 September 1982	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
second	30 September 1986	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
third	30 September 1990	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
fourth	30 September 1994	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
fifth	30 September 1998	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
sixth periodic report	30 September 2002	2 January 2003	CEDAW/C/BTN/1-6
Burkina Faso			
Combined fourth and	13 November 2000	4 August 2003	CEDAW/C/BFA/4-5
fifth periodic report	13 November 2004	4 August 2003	CEDAW/C/BFA/4-5

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
Croatia			
Combined second and	9 October 1997	17 October 2003	CEDAW/C/CRO/2-3
third periodic report	9 October 2001	17 October 2003	CEDAW/C/CRO/2-3
Democratic People's Republic of Korea[c]			
Initial report	27 March 2002	11 September 2002	CEDAW/C/PRK/1
Dominican Republic[b, c]			
Fifth periodic report	2 September 1999	11 April 2003	CEDAW/C/DOM/5
Equatorial Guinea[b, c]			
Combined second and	22 November 1989	6 January 1994	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3
third periodic report	22 November 1993	6 January 1994	CEDAW/C/GNQ/2-3
Ethiopia[a, c]			
Combined fourth and	10 October 1994	25 September 2002	CEDAW/C/ETH/4-5
fifth periodic report	10 October 1998	25 September 2002	CEDAW/C/ETH/4-5
Gabon			
Combined second,	20 February 1988	4 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5
third,	20 February 1992	4 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5
fourth and	20 February 1996	4 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5
fifth periodic report	20 February 2000	4 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GAB/2-5
Gambia[c]			
Combined initial	16 May 1994	4 April 2003	CEDAW/C/GMB/1-3
second and	16 May 1998	4 April 2003	CEDAW/C/GMB/1-3
third periodic report	16 May 2002	4 April 2003	CEDAW/C/GMB/1-3
Germany[a, c]			
Fifth periodic report	9 August 2002	28 January 2003	CEDAW/C/DEU/5
Guyana			
Combined third	3 September 1990	27 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GUY/3-6
fourth	3 September 1994	27 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GUY/3-6
fifth and	3 September 1998	27 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GUY/3-6
sixth periodic report	3 September 2002	27 June 2003	CEDAW/C/GUY/3-6

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
Ireland			
Combined fourth and	22 January 1999	10 June 2003	CEDAW/C/IRL/4-5
fifth periodic report	22 January 2003	10 June 2003	CEDAW/C/IRL/4-5
Israel[c]			
Third periodic report	2 November 2000	22 October 2001	CEDAW/C/ISR/3
Kuwait[a]			
Combined initial and	2 October 1995	29 August 2002	CEDAW/C/KWT/1-2
second periodic report	2 October 1999	29 August 2002	CEDAW/C/KWT/1-2
Kyrgyzstan[a, c]			
Second periodic report	12 March 2002	25 September 2002	CEDAW/C/KGZ/2
Lao People's Democratic Republic			
Combined initial,	13 September 1982	3 February 2003	CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5
second,	13 September 1986	3 February 2003	CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5
third,	13 September 1990	3 February 2003	CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5
fourth and	13 September 1994	3 February 2003	CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5
fifth periodic report	13 September 1998	3 February 2003	CEDAW/C/LAO/1-5
Latvia[b]			
Combined initial	14 May 1993	13 June 2003	CEDAW/C/LVA/1-3
second and	14 May 1997	13 June 2003	CEDAW/C/LVA/1-3
third periodic report	14 May 2001	13 June 2003	CEDAW/C/LVA/1-3
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya[c]			
Second periodic report	15 June 1990	14 December 1998	CEDAW/C/LBY/2
Liechtenstein[c]			
Second periodic report	21 January 2001	2 June 2001	CEDAW/C/LIE/2
Malta[b, c]			
Combined initial	7 April 1992	1 August 2002	CEDAW/C/MLT/1-3
second and	7 April 1996	1 August 2002	CEDAW/C/MLT/1-3
third periodic report	7 April 2000	1 August 2002	CEDAW/C/MLT/1-3

State party	*Date due*	*Date received*	*Document symbol*
Nepal[a, c]			
Combined second and third report	22 May 1996 22 May 2000	26 November 2002 26 November 2002	CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3 CEDAW/C/NPL/2-3
Nigeria[a, c]			
Combined fourth and fifth periodic report	13 July 1998 13 July 2002	23 January 2003 23 January 2003	CEDAW/C/NGA/4-5 CEDAW/C/NGA/4-5
Paraguay			
Combined third and fourth periodic report	6 May 1996 6 May 2000	28 August 2003 28 August 2003	CEDAW/C/PAR/3-4 CEDAW/C/PAR/3-4
Peru			
Sixth periodic report	13 October 2003	15 October 2003	CEDAW/C/PER/6
Republic of Korea			
Fifth periodic report	26 January 2002	23 July 2003	CEDAW/C/KOR/5
Samoa			
Combined initial second and third periodic report	25 October 1993 25 October 1997 25 October 2001	2 May 2003 2 May 2003 2 May 2003	CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3 CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3 CEDAW/C/WSM/1-3
Spain[b, c]			
Fifth periodic report	4 February 2001	11 April 2003	CEDAW/C/ESP/5
Thailand			
Combined fourth and fifth periodic report	8 September 1998 8 September 2002	7 October 2003 7 October 2003	CEDAW/C/THA/4-5 CEDAW/C/THA/4-5
Turkey			
Combined fourth and fifth periodic report	19 January 1999 19 January 2003	31 July 2003 31 July 2003	CEDAW/C/TUR/4-5 CEDAW/C/TUR/4-5
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland			
Fifth periodic report	7 May 2003	7 August 2003	CEDAW/C/UK/5

[a] Report to be considered by the Committee at its thirtieth session, to be held in New York in January 2004.
[b] Report selected to be considered by the Committee at its thirty-first session, to be held in New York in July 2004.
[c] Report has been translated, reproduced and made available in all official languages.

United Nations CEDAW/C/2004/I/3

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
14 October 2003

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Thirtieth session
12-30 January 2004
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Reports provided by specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the specialized agencies of the United Nations have been invited to submit to the Committee on the Elimination against Women, at its thirtieth session, reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities. The reports will be issued as addenda to the present document.

* CEDAW/C/2004/I/1.

03-55872 (E) 281003

United Nations CEDAW/C/2004/I/3/Add.1

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Distr.: General
10 December 2003

Original: English

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Thirtieth session
12-30 January 2004
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of article 21 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

Report provided by the specialized agencies of the United Nations on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities

Note by the Secretary-General

Addendum**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. On 19 September 2003, the Secretariat, on behalf of the Committee, invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to submit a report to the Committee on information provided by States to FAO on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in areas falling within the scope of its activities, which would supplement the information contained in the reports of the States parties to the Convention that will be considered at the thirtieth session.

2. Other information sought by the Committee refers to activities, programmes and policy decisions undertaken by FAO to promote the implementation of the Convention.

3. The report annexed hereto has been submitted in compliance with the Committee's request.

* CEDAW/C/2004/I/1.
** The present document was submitted late due to a delay in receiving the information from FAO.

03-64966 (E) 070104

Annex

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for submission to the thirtieth session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Bhutan

Bhutan's total population estimate for 2001 was 1.9 million, of which 49.4 per cent were women. Of the total population of the country, 93 per cent lived in rural areas. In 2001, it was estimated that 48 per cent of the population was economically active, of which 94 per cent worked in the agricultural sector. The proportion of economically active women was 40 per cent, of whom 98 per cent were working in agriculture.

Activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the empowerment of rural women and gender equality

In order to fulfil its mandate to provide information on rural women, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has developed a fact sheet on Bhutan to highlight the participation of rural women in agriculture, environment and rural production. This fact sheet traces a gender profile of agriculture, environment and rural economies and explains the role of rural women in food security. It also includes recommendations for gender responsive policies and programme planning in Bhutan.

In collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), FAO implemented a project entitled "National strategy for stoves and alternative energy sources in Bhutan". The primary objective of the project was to provide the Government of Bhutan with a comprehensive assessment of fuel wood consumption and with alternative options for energy production, with implications for rural women's access to a wide range of energy resource alternatives. In this process, the National Women's Association of Bhutan played an important role in highlighting gender issues, women being the most important fuel wood consumers in Bhutan.

Bhutan participated in all the FAO-sponsored regional meetings that set the agenda for regional strategies in distance education and agro-biodiversity conservation, taking into account the role and interests of rural women.

Ethiopia

In 2002, Ethiopia's total population was estimated at 69.1 million, of which about 50 per cent were women. Of the total population of the country, 84 per cent lived in rural areas. In 2002, it was estimated that 24 per cent of the women were economically active, with around 80 per cent working in the agricultural sector.

Activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the empowerment of rural women and gender equality

FAO recently launched a pilot project on agro-biodiversity and indigenous knowledge, knowledge which is being lost as a result of the spread of HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the project is to develop field-level methodologies that will enable communities to record, store and share agro-biodiversity and indigenous knowledge both within and between communities. This will contribute to the improvement of their nutrition, easing their workloads, providing medicinal relief and securing more sustainable livelihoods in the face of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Specific attention will be paid to the differentiated roles, rights and needs of women and men.

FAO is also implementing a technical capacity-building project, aiming at improving nutrition and household food security in northern Shoa and the southern zone of Tigray. The project considers gender and socio-economic issues at all levels, from community action planning, through targeting of interventions, to capacity-building in support organizations. The participatory monitoring and evaluation process is designed in a way that allows gender and socio-economic differentiation in terms of access, control and benefits.

A survey undertaken in 2003 revealed that the total number of female-headed households in project areas is within the range of 28 to 36 per cent (depending on the *Woreda* selected), with illiteracy among females of roughly 90 per cent for the entire population surveyed. The high level of illiteracy acutely limits women's ability to use the new technologies available, to assimilate the information for small-scale enterprise development and, importantly, to improve nutrition for their families. The study concluded that women-headed households are among the most deprived in the country. Additionally, FAO, through its project "Strengthening seed supply systems at the local level", aims to increase the participation of women in seed production, quality control and marketing. Building on the important role women play in post-harvest handling and marketing/petty trade, the project strengthens the capacity of women's groups in the basic techniques of seed post-harvest handling and storage. In addition, women are assisted with vegetable and orchard seedlings production and are provided with beehives for their home compounds.

FAO, through its TeleFood activities, is supporting several projects in Ethiopia, including projects for women in vegetable production and sheep husbandry, as well as restocking female-headed households with goats in times of drought.

From 1994 to 1996, FAO also implemented a pilot project in Ethiopia aimed at initiating client-oriented agricultural extension planning based on the use of participatory approaches and gender analysis. The project was used as a case study in the more general publication entitled, *From farmer to planner and back: Harvesting best practices*,[1] illustrating participatory and gender-sensitive development planning.

Kyrgyzstan

The population of Kyrgyzstan in 2001 was nearly 5 million, of which 65.8 per cent lived in rural areas. In 2001, it was estimated that 44.5 per cent of the population was economically active, with 25 per cent working in the agricultural

sector. The share of economically active women represented 47.2 per cent, of which 19.7 per cent were working in agriculture.

Activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the empowerment of rural women and gender equality

In July 2003, FAO conducted a workshop on gender-disaggregated data for agricultural and rural development in the Kyrgyz Republic, as part of its Socioeconomic and Gender Analysis (SEAGA) programme. Twenty-one participants from Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan attended the workshop, the purpose of which was to build capacity for production, analysis and interpretation of gender-disaggregated data for policy analysis and formulation. The workshop also afforded the opportunity to test and adapt the Russian-language gender-disaggregated data training materials developed by FAO for wider use in Russian-speaking countries.

SEAGA training materials translated into Russian to date include the field and intermediate level handbooks and the irrigation, microfinance and project cycle guides.

Nepal

The population of Nepal in 2001 was 23.6 million, of which 88 per cent lived in rural areas. In 2001, it was estimated that 47 per cent of the population was economically active, with 93 per cent working in the agricultural sector. The proportion of economically active women was 39 per cent, of which 98 per cent were working in agriculture.

Activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the empowerment of rural women and gender equality

Nepal is one of the beneficiaries of the FAO regional project for the empowerment of women in irrigation and water resources management for household food security and health (WIN-Project). The overall development objective of the project is to enhance the opportunities for rural women to improve household food security and to raise income through the introduction of low-cost and water-saving technologies for irrigated crop production. It envisages direct support to ensure the involvement of women in mainstream activities and to increase their access to productive resources and appropriate low-cost irrigation technologies. The project interventions have been directed to improve community-based partnerships, particularly women's groups and NGO linkages, and to facilitate their access to water resources and their nutritional knowledge and practices.

Through TeleFood, FAO is also active in the Bhaktapur district in Nepal's Kathmandu Valley, where it has helped the Creative Women's Group, composed of 52 women, to build a small processing plant in the heart of the traditional spice-growing area. This support allows them to grind and sell the spices they grow instead of having to sell them to outside mills, for a very low price. The TeleFood Fund also paid for the building, dryers, mills, scales and heat sealers for packaging, while the Nepalese Government provided training and guidance.

FAO also compiled a fact sheet on Nepal entitled: *Women in agriculture, environment and rural production*, which traces a gender profile in agriculture, environment and rural economies, highlighting the role of rural women in food security. The fact sheet also focuses on gender responsive policies and programme planning in Nepal.

Nepal was also represented in all the FAO-sponsored regional meetings that set the agenda for regional strategies in distance education and technology transfer for rural women.

Between 1996 and 1999, FAO implemented a pilot project entitled: "Improving information on women's contribution to agricultural production for gender-sensitive planning". The project became a case study in the more general publication *From farmer to planner and back: Harvesting best practices*,[1] illustrating participatory and gender-sensitive development planning.

In 2001, FAO representation in Nepal took the lead in establishing a set of gender-responsive personnel policies (regulations), including facilities for breastfeeding mothers and an allowance for childcare-givers for the children of female staff while they are engaged in field visits, projects or other undertakings that keep them from home.

Nigeria

The population of Nigeria in 2001 was nearly 117 million, of which 55 per cent lived in rural areas. In 2001, it was estimated that 40 per cent of the population was economically active, with 32 per cent working in the agricultural sector. The share of economically active women was 36 per cent, of which 34 per cent were working in agriculture.

Activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for the empowerment of rural women and gender equality

Through the Dimitra project, FAO collects detailed information on organizations and projects concerning rural women, food security and sustainable development in Europe, Africa and in the Near East. By making this information available, the project aims to increase the visibility of the contributions of rural women to development via traditional means of communication and new information technologies. Dimitra seeks to increase gender awareness among development actors and to promote information exchange and dissemination. There are 24 organizations from Nigeria listed in the Dimitra database (www.fao.org/sd/dimitra). These organizations have been engaged in a total of 57 projects.

Notes

[1] http://www.fao.org/sd/2003/PE0103_en.htm.